

PDR RID Report

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Document Presentation

RID ID	PDR	175
Review	CSMS	
Originator Ref	OYS-HQ-004	
Priority	1	

Section Overview

Page EL-20

Figure Table

Category Name Design-Segment-level

Actionee HAIS

Sub Category True Cost of Cots

Subject CSMS Design Practice

Description of Problem or Suggestion:

It is not clear from the presentation how modifications are made to new or existing COTS hardware/software and how enhancements/equipment upgrades are to be made. There is no documented requirement process or documentation itself which addresses implementation of new design capabilities and performance characteristics that are to be developed by new/old COTS vendors. Standard documentation given to a vendor often includes CSCI/CSC, interface requirement specification, program design language; PDL structure, interface requirement/control documents on existing hardware, none of which was discussed in relationship to COTS.

Originator's Recommendation

Develop a process which ensures COTS systems vendors will integrate, follow program methodologies, program requirements and meet the intended capabilities of system or subsystem that are incorporated into the program design.

GSFC Response by:

GSFC Response Date

HAIS Response by: Forman

HAIS Schedule 2/17/95

HAIS R. E. Armstrong

HAIS Response Date 2/28/95

We agree that COTS vendor development and integration practices, including their methodologies and policies for product upgrades, are beyond ECS control. However, in the procurement of COTS products, we take into consideration a number of factors that reflect the quality of the vendor's product. These include vendor upgrade policies, level of technical support, documentation, and adherence to standards. In addition, CSMS prototypes with candidate COTS products typically provide excellent insight into product quality.

Since COTS vendors are building to a larger market than a single program, COTS vendors will not customize their products specifically to the ECS domain. Therefore, although our RFP will reference functionality that relates to ECS requirements, we do not want vendors to create a "special" version of their products which will result in increase maintenance costs. We do, however, encourage vendors to support open system concepts. Our choice of COTS is based on the degree to which a product satisfies requirements, with consideration for vendor practices that relate to upgrade and technical support.

Status Closed

Date Closed 3/8/95

Sponsor Daly

Attachment if any
